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cor'd.*

template, D major green template, and C major blue template. Then study the orange template for G II and indigo for C II. After completing the third position yellow template for G major and violet for C major, one has become familiar with all the finger patterns and is ready to play any key in any position.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 12, 14, 18 and 21-24, amend claims 1-3, 7-9, 11 and 20, and add new claims 25-26 as follows. A marked-up version of amended claims 1-3, 7-9, 11 and 20 and added claims 25-26 is provided in the attached separate sheet, entitled "Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims."

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B1*

1 Claim 1 (amended). Apparatus for displaying finger patterns of a stringed instrument having  
2 a fingerboard, the apparatus comprising:  
3 a baseboard having thereon a pattern of chromatic notes, each note positioned in the same  
4 relative position as it appears on the fingerboard of the stringed instrument; and  
5 a plurality of templates for placement over the baseboard, each template corresponding to at  
6 least one particular key in a particular position and defining a plurality of holes through which notes  
7 corresponding to the particular key are visible.

1 Claim 2 (amended). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each template can be releasably  
2 secured to the baseboard to represent twelve different major and minor keys in more than seven  
3 different positions.

1 Claim 3 (amended). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein all of the templates can be  
2 simultaneously and releasably secured to the baseboard.

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Claim 7 (amended). The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising:

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2 a base having thereon a plurality of color-coded bars extending radially outward from a  
3 center of the base, each bar corresponds to a finger pattern of the stringed instrument and the  
4 arrangement of the bars corresponds to the cyclic nature of finger patterns on the fingerboard of the  
5 stringed instrument; and

6 a plurality of key signatures with positions adjacent to each bar.

1 Claim 8 (amended). The apparatus of claim 7, wherein each bar corresponds to a finger  
2 pattern codon.

1 Claim 9 (amended). The apparatus of claim 8, wherein each finger pattern codon is a  
2 combination of four letters, and corresponding to a finger pattern to be used to play notes for twelve  
3 major and minor keys in their corresponding positions.

1 Claim 11 (amended). Apparatus for displaying finger patterns of a stringed instrument, the  
2 apparatus comprising:

3 a scale board having thereon a pattern of numbers, each number corresponding to a degree  
4 of a note for a given diatonic scale and positioned in the same relative position as the degree of the  
5 note appears on the fingerboard of the stringed instrument; and

6 a ladder frame for placement on the scale board in a plurality of positions, the ladder frame  
7 defining a plurality of windows to expose the scale board numbers.

1 Claim 20 (amended). The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the ladder frame defines five  
2 windows and the scale board corresponds to a six-stringed instrument.

1 Claim 25 (new). Apparatus for displaying finger patterns of a stringed instrument having a  
2 fingerboard, the apparatus comprising:

3 a baseboard having thereon a pattern of chromatic notes, each note positioned in the same  
4 relative position as it appears on the fingerboard of the stringed instrument;

5 a plurality of templates for placement over the baseboard, each template corresponding to at  
6 least one particular key in a particular position and defining a plurality of holes through which notes  
7 corresponding to the particular key are visible;

8 a base having thereon a plurality of color-coded bars extending radially outward from a  
9 center of the base, each bar corresponds to a finger pattern of the stringed instrument and the  
10 arrangement of the bars corresponds to the cyclic nature of finger patterns on the fingerboard of the  
11 stringed instrument; and

12 a plurality of key signatures with positions adjacent to each bar,  
13 wherein each bar corresponds to a finger pattern codon comprising a combination of four  
14 letters, and corresponding to a finger pattern used to play notes for twelve major and minor keys in  
15 their corresponding positions,

16 wherein four of the letters are taken from a set of seven letters h, m, l, O, H, M, L, and  
17 wherein:

18 **h** as half step (the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degrees of note in a major scale) to be played by the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
19 and 4<sup>th</sup> fingers, the rests are whole steps in a tetrachord;

20 **m** as half step (the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degrees of note in a major scale) to be played by the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
21 and 3<sup>rd</sup> fingers, the rests are whole steps in a tetrachord;

22 **l** as half step (the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degrees of note in a major scale) to be played by the 1<sup>st</sup>  
23 and 2<sup>nd</sup> fingers, the rests are whole steps in a tetrachord;

24 **O** as all four fingers are spread out with whole steps (degrees of note 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>  
25 in a major scale) in between a tetrachord;

26 **H** as half step (the 7<sup>th</sup> and upper tonic notes in a major scale) to be played by the 3<sup>rd</sup> and  
27 4<sup>th</sup> fingers, the rests are whole steps in a tetrachord;

28 **M** as half step (the 7<sup>th</sup> and upper tonic notes in a major scale) to be played by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and  
29 3<sup>rd</sup> fingers, the rests are whole steps in a tetrachord; and